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Serial No. 09/728153

OCT 0 4 2004

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Nomura, et al.

Examiner:

LaToya I. Cross

Serial No.

09/728153

Group Art Unit:

1743

Filed:

December 2, 2000

Docket No.

01875.0005-US-01

Title:

SURFACE-MODIFIED WICK FOR DIAGNOSTIC TEST STRIP

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (703) 872-9306 on October 1, 2004.

Michele Read

Name of Person Signing This Certificate

Signature

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R.§1.136(a)

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is a request under 37 C.F.R.§1.136(a) to extend the period for filing a response to the Office Action dated June 4, 2004. This is a request for a one month extension of time from September 4, 2004 to October 4, 2004. Please charge Deposit Account Number 50-1038 the amount of \$55.00, to cover the required extension fee for a small entity.

Please consider this a petition to extend the time to respond if an additional extension of time is deemed necessary by the Office. Authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account Number 50-1038 if such additional extension is necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

Altera Law Group, LLC Customer No. 22865

Date: October 1, 2004

By:

Hallie A. Finucane

Reg. No. 33,172

HAF/mar